

Appendix C - Considerations for Visitor Facilities

National Park Service

While striving for excellence in visitor services, the NPS will limit visitor facility development to that which is necessary and appropriate. Facilities like gas stations and grocery stores may be necessary to park use and enjoyment, but it does not necessarily follow that these facilities must be located inside a park. The NPS will encourage the development of private-sector visitor services in gateway communities to contribute to local economic development, encourage competition, increase choices for visitors, and minimize the need for in-park facilities. When visitor facilities are found to be necessary and appropriate within a park, they will be designed, built, and maintained in accordance with accepted NPS standards for quality, and the NPS commitment to visitor satisfaction. (NPS *Management Policies* 9.3)

Alaska Department of Natural Resources

Visitor facility development on state land would adhere to Alaska's Northern Region Department of Natural Resources mission and goals as follows:

To advance the interests of the state of Alaska pursuant to the principles of natural resources stewardship; improving the quality of life for Alaskans, both present and future, through the development, conservation, and enhancement of natural resources located upon state public lands.

Strategies used to achieve this mission include:

- 1) Obtain the highest net revenue return to the state treasury from the development and use of natural resources located upon state lands;*
- 2) Extend the benefits of natural resource development across all social quarters of Alaska;*
- 3) Maintain public transparency in the processes of natural resources decision making; and*
- 4) Maintain the full compliment of parts and interactions, which comprises the natural ecosystems we manipulate.*

Communication and Coordination with Landowners

The National Park Service and the Alaska Department of Natural Resources communicate with the public, including landowners, when visitor facility development or other actions are being considered or proposed. Communication and coordination with landowners in the vicinity of the Stampede Road alignment, and with other interested and affected parties, would occur if any future actions were proposed.

Accessibility for People with Disabilities

The NPS and DNR will design, construct, and operate all buildings and facilities so they are accessible to, and usable by, persons with disabilities to the greatest extent reasonable, in compliance with all applicable laws, regulations and standards. This means that all new and altered buildings and facilities will be in conformance with the appropriate design standards. It also means that a sufficient number of existing buildings and facilities will be modified to ensure that programs can be provided in an accessible location.

Estimated Costs of Facilities

The following estimated costs are for construction only and do not include the cost of planning and design, compliance, maintenance, staffing, and furnishing.

Type of Visitor Facility	Estimated Cost
Visitor Information Center (VIC)	
Large - 15,000 square feet	\$5,280,000
Medium & Remote – 7,500 square feet	\$3,735,000
Small & Remote – 4,000 square feet	\$1,992,000
Exhibits (indoor)	
Large VIC (4,000 square feet)	\$960,000
Medium VIC (1,800 square feet)	\$432,000
Small VIC (1,500 square feet)	\$360,000
Trails	
½-mile accessible loop trail – gravel	\$330,000
½-mile accessible loop trail – hardened	\$396,000
Information Kiosk w/ Interpretive Signs	\$15,000
Wayside Interpretive Exhibit (1 panel)	\$5,000
Parking	
Paved (250 auto and 10 RV/bus)	\$660,000
Gravel, Remote (30 auto and 10 RV/bus)	\$490,000
Campground	
70-site Campground	\$2,450,000
Remote 30-site Campground	\$1,200,000
Remote 15-site Campground	\$600,000
Dispersed Campsite (1 hardened site w/grill)	\$3,000
Restroom Facility	
Comfort Station (flush toilets, 8 fixtures)	\$240,000
Vault Toilet (1 building w/2 rooms)	\$65,000
Portable Chemical Toilet	\$10,000
Pit Toilet	\$6,000
Picnic Table	\$250
Picnic Shelter (24'x36')	\$130,000
Fee Station	\$95,000
Boat Launch	\$65,000
Public Use Cabin (24'x 24')	\$92,000
Viewing Platform	\$100,000
Ranger Contact Station	\$280,000

Viewshed Analysis

Mount McKinley is one of the major attractions in the Denali region. The map on the following page is a preliminary map of a viewshed analysis along the Stampede Road alignment. Included are simulated views of Mount McKinley from various points along the alignment. An expanded analysis will be included in the final study.

DRAFT North Access Visitor Facilities Study

